

of whom affectionately referred to them as 'Aunt Lu' and 'Uncle Ralph.'

Mrs. Crisafi remained in her home 25 years after her husband passed away. Her life-long spirit of activism and volunteerism with St. Rocco's Catholic Church continues to uplift all aspects of the parish. She has been an active member of the Holy Family Sodality of St. Rocco's for 72 years and served as the Financial Secretary for nearly 20 years.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mrs. Lucille "Aunt Lu" Crisafi, as we join her in celebration of her 100th birthday on December 13. At 100 years young, Mrs. Crisafi's sharp intellect, quick wit, kind smile and spirit of love and generosity for others shine brighter than ever and continues to illuminate the hearts of friends and family along Clark Avenue, throughout St. Rocco's parish, in Parma, Ohio and far beyond. I wish Mrs. Crisafi a joyous birthday and many blessings of peace, health and happiness today and always. Cent' Anni, Aunt Lu.

TRINITY CATHOLIC
CONGRATULATIONS

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate Trinity Catholic High School of Ocala, Florida on its first-ever football state championship.

On Saturday, December 3, the Celtics completed an undefeated season by defeating Pahokee High School 37 to 30 in front of 4,327 fans at Florida International University to clinch the Class 2B state title.

Coach Kerwin Bell and his Celtics became the first team to bring a state championship in football to Marion County since 1979 in only the fourth year of the program's existence. The Celtics' season slogan, "It's our time," embodied the determination that they showed in pursuing their goal. Despite a furious comeback by Pahokee to tie the game in the 4th quarter, the team pulled together and prevailed in a game that came down to the final whistle. The hard work of this group of young men has served as an inspiration to Ocala and Marion County and I congratulate them by saying, "It is your time."

IN RECOGNITION OF TATIANA
HORUNOWYCZ VONDERSAAR AND
RUSSIAN HERITAGE

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Tatiana Horunowycz Vondersaar and Russian Heritage on the occasion of the 10th Annual Russian Heritage New Years Celebration, January 15, 2006. Mrs. Vondersaar's contributions to the Russian community have touched countless lives. It is a pleasure to pay tribute to this illustrious community leader and, of course, to all Americans of Russian heritage who have offered so much to our great Nation.

There is no doubt that America has become great because the American people are great. Coming from all parts of the globe and from humble beginnings, the average American is a priceless gift to our society and world. Without the common citizen, America would not have assumed the uncommon role she enjoys among the nations of the earth. Among these citizens are the proud and humble people of Russian heritage who are precious gems in the American mosaic.

I can think of no better example of this unique heritage than Tatiana Horunowycz Vondersaar, who has tirelessly promoted Russian heritage among the citizens of the great State of Florida. Mrs. Vondersaar is a former president and board member of the Russian Heritage located in St. Petersburg, FL. The Russian Heritage was established to preserve and promote Russian heritage, culture and educational programs among family, friends and neighbors.

Volunteering her time and talents to better the lives of others, Mrs. Vondersaar has been active on numerous committees and boards. She represented the St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society, SPIFFs, promoting Russian heritage and culture. Mrs. Vondersaar has worked with the Police Athletic League and educated students about the influence of Russian customs and traditions. She has lectured at St. Petersburg College and volunteered her time at the Salvador Dali Museum. Mrs. Vondersaar has served as a translator for Russian immigrants for the public defender's office, assisted the elderly, and participated as an active and leading member at St. Andrew's Russian Orthodox Church. She also has served as treasurer of the Association of Russian Cadets, and board member of the Russian American Club.

Mrs. Vondersaar and her husband Lee, a courageous veteran of World War II, are the proud parents of 6 children, 14 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

I want to commend Russian Heritage and its President Bill Parsons for their leadership in raising awareness of the rich contributions of Russian Americans to the United States. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring all Americans of Russian descent and particularly Tatiana Horunowycz Vondersaar, whose spirit and dedication serve as a model of commitment to us all.

TRIBUTE TO 113TH ENGINEER BATTALION OF THE INDIANA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to the 113th Engineer Battalion of the Indiana Army National Guard, and welcome them home after 1 year of serving our country heroically in Iraq.

Upon arrival, the 113th was nicknamed the "Ironman Battalion" because of their links to northwest Indiana's steel industry. And throughout the past year, these Iron men and women have shown a dedication to their mission, and a commitment to their country that truly is as strong as steel.

Today Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that soldiers of the 113th are coming home—coming home to be with their family and friends; coming home to be with their wives, husbands, sons, daughters, mothers and fathers.

Based in Mosul, Iraq since last year, the soldiers of the 113th made heroic missions a part of their daily routine. They located and detonated improvised explosive devices, reinforced police stations and conducted combat patrols.

The service of these men and women has not been without sacrifice. Over 40 Purple Hearts have been awarded to the 113th battalion, each serving as a reminder of the dangers our soldiers face every day.

I welcome these soldiers home. I thank them for their service and sacrifice to our Nation, and I pledge that our support for them is equal to the sacrifice they have shown our country.

Mr. Speaker, the following men and women of the 113th have bravely served their Nation in Iraq, and I am honored to submit their names for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Rodolfo Alfaro Jr., Jose Luis Andujar, Erendira B. Ayala, Robert Kenneth Banaszak, Lechia Tiara Banks, Timothy Patrick Bishop, Jerry Joe Blackford, Ernest Lee Boyles, Steven Ravey Brumfield, Travis Allen Byrd, Andre Steven Carr, Jason Allen Carrera, Luis Valentin Castro, Johnathan Michael Clabbers, Joseph Earl Collins Jr., Jonathon C Creviston, Michael Brian Daake, Keenon Carlton Davis, Walter Joseph Dinga Sr., Dennis Shawn Eastman, David Michael Eckhard, Tyler Jacob Egli, Saleem Amin Elamin, Wesley Etchison, David James Evans, David Paul Evans, Steven Edward Francher, Anthony Lee Fleming, John Paul Furman III, Jennifer Arlene Graves, Justin K Greentree, Michael Crispin Guajardo, Karl Eugene Hausenfleck, Shalonda Moniece Henderson, Andre Terrell Hillard, Paris H. Holeyfield, Richard Jakubowicz, Steven John Jesuit, Bradford Shawn Jones, William Michael Rich Kalina, Douglas Paul Kinger Jr., Gary Bernard Kinney Jr., Joshua Daniel Koch, Thomas Kopanda, Thomas Edward Kren, Mark Lathrop, John Lindsey, William Charles Mackey, Anthony Romon Madry, Garrett Emon Marshall, Leo Sharpe Marshall, Scott Arnold Marshall, Nicole Dionne McCant, Gregory Quinn McHenry, Terry Dionne McQuay, Lester Dwayne McSwain, and James Allen Miller.

Keith Allen Miller, William Moses Milligan, Joshua Arvino Miranda, Johnny Melvin Mitchell, Rodney Dean Mitchell, Leticia Marie Montez, Lawrence Edward Nemcek II, Steven Charles Patterson, Melvin Pennington Jr., Jorge Antonio Perez, Ricky Lee Phillips, John Edward Pitt, Peter Alan Pizarek, Thomas Michael Prosser, Mark Steven Reimer, Tommy Wade Roeske, Felicia Ronay, Briggs Obrian Rumph Jr., Alvaro Eneas Saenz, Berris Fitzroy Samuels Jr., Paul Randolph Scott Jr., Richard Dean Shatto, William Michael Sideris, Loretta Silvers, Larry Smith, Leroy Smith Jr., Jeffrey Scott Springer, Henry Louis Stone, Dawn Theresa Swantko, Michael William Thomas, Samantha Nicole Thomas, Johnny A. Trinidad, Michael Ralph Via, Dontreal Walters, Paul Nathaniel Wilderness, Demond Ellis Wilkins, Chery Lynn Williams, David Allen Young, Michael Zinman, Alexander James Baker, Charles Edward Beavers, Sean Peter Begley, Samuel James Benford, Christopher Ryan Boger, Ryan G. Bowerson, Steven Anthony Bramer Jr., Adam Joseph Branson, Johnathan Leon Bright, Aaron A. Brown, Charles Paul Bruce, Michael Joseph